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Tang

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(54) **ANTENNA SYSTEM**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

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H01Q 19/00	(2006.01)
H01P 5/16	(2006.01)
H01Q 1/48	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ***H01Q 9/0414*** (2013.01); ***H01P 5/16*** (2013.01); ***H01Q 1/48*** (2013.01); ***H01Q 19/005*** (2013.01); *H01Q 9/0435* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC H01Q 9/04; H01Q 9/0407; H01Q 9/0414; H01Q 9/0428; H01Q 9/0435; H01Q 19/005

See application file for complete search history.

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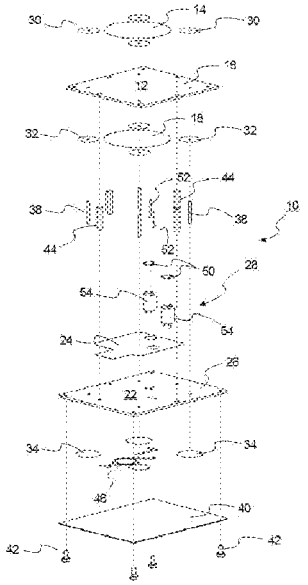
Primary Examiner — Jason Crawford

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An antenna system includes a first substrate, the first substrate being a dielectric substrate, a first patch on a first surface of the dielectric substrate and a second patch on a second surface of the dielectric substrate. The first and second patches are coupled to form a first capacitor with the dielectric substrate. A second substrate is coupled to the first substrate and a ground layer is provided on a first surface of the second substrate. An antenna feed is coupled to the second substrate.

9 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets



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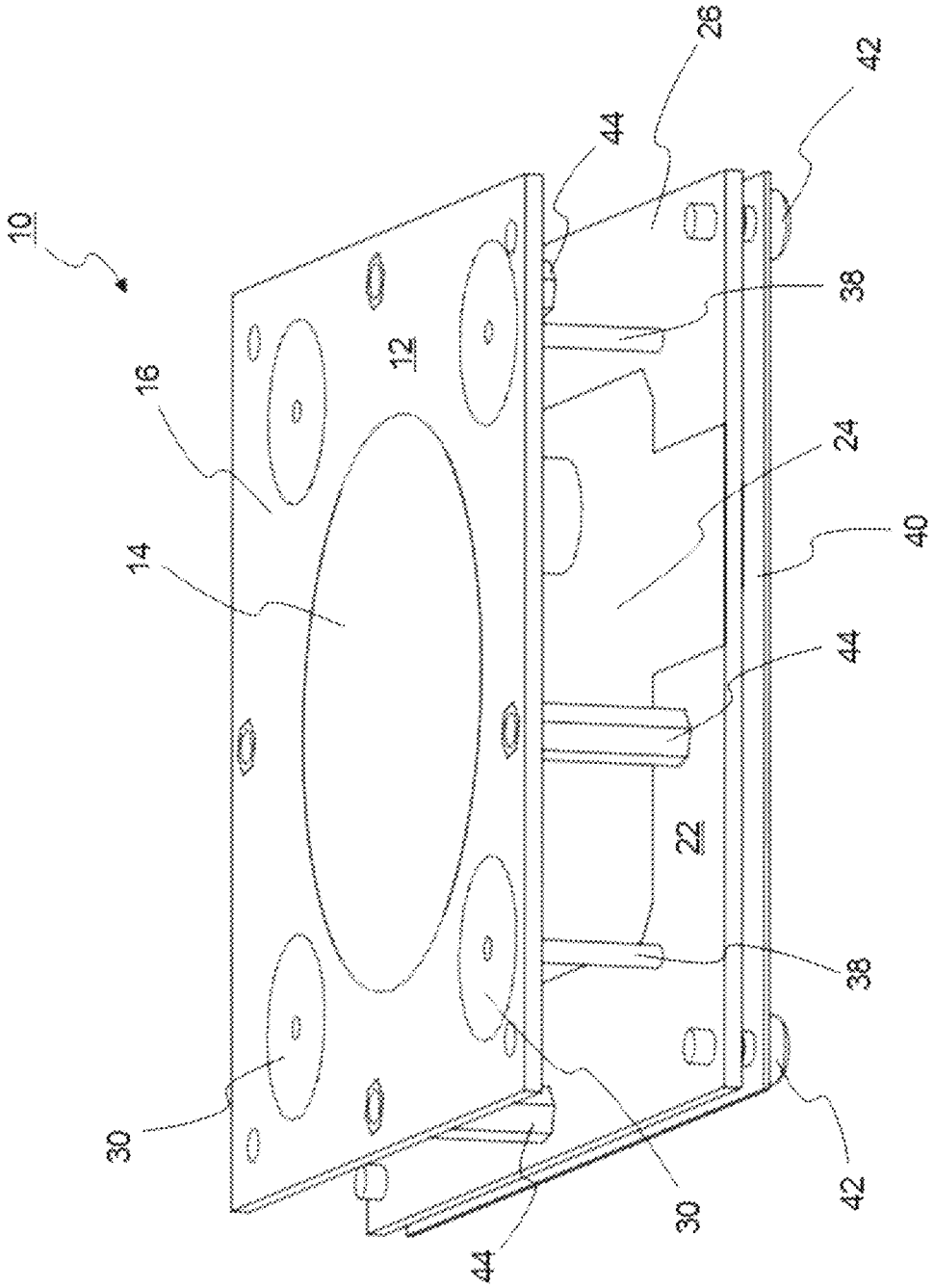


FIG. 1A

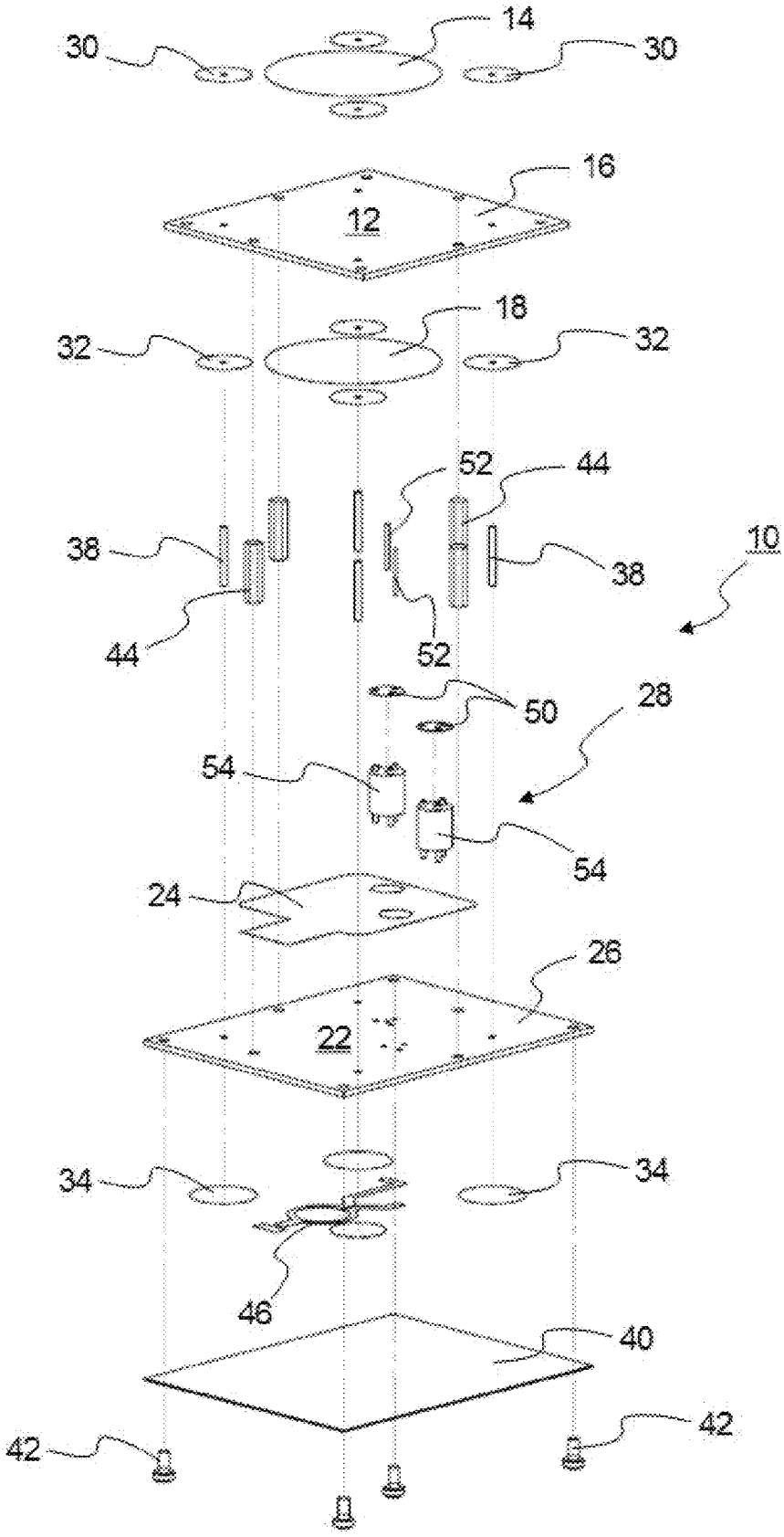

14
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30
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12
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32
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52
44
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42
42

FIG. 1B

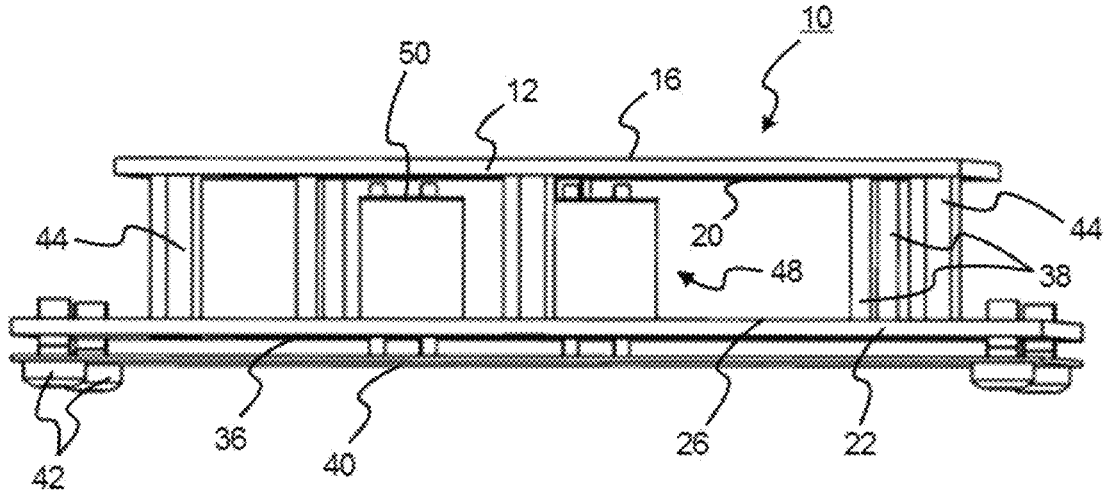

10
50
12
16
20
44
44
48
38
36
40
26
22
42

FIG. 1C

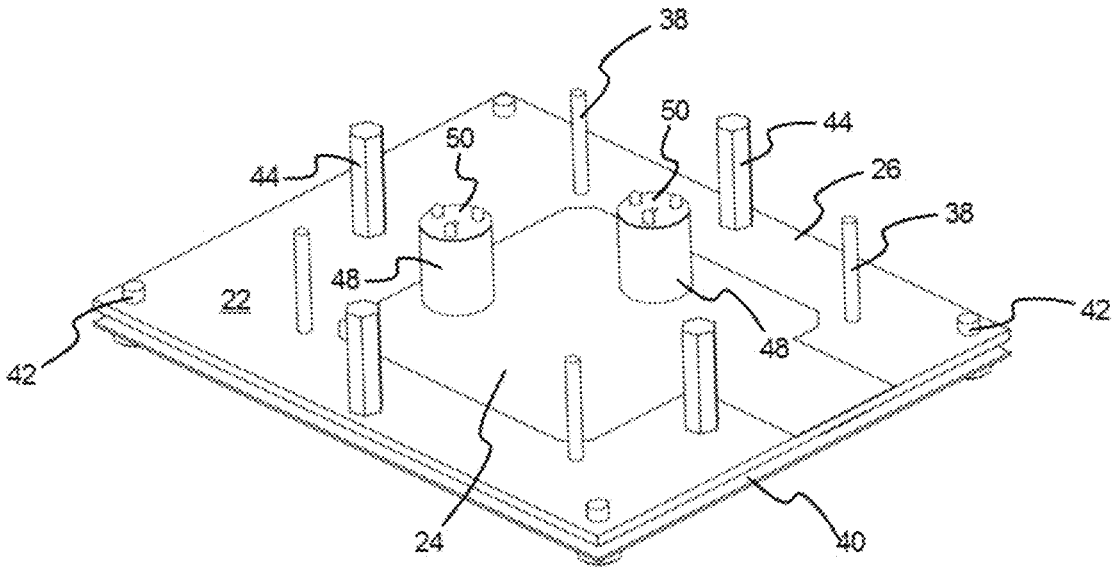

38
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44
44
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38
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22
42
42
48
24
40

FIG. 1D

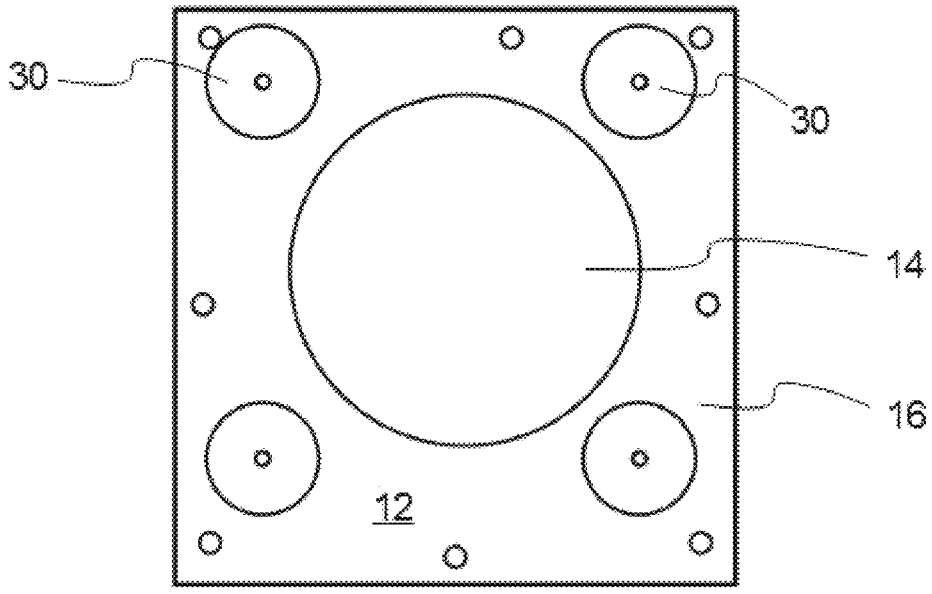


FIG. 1E

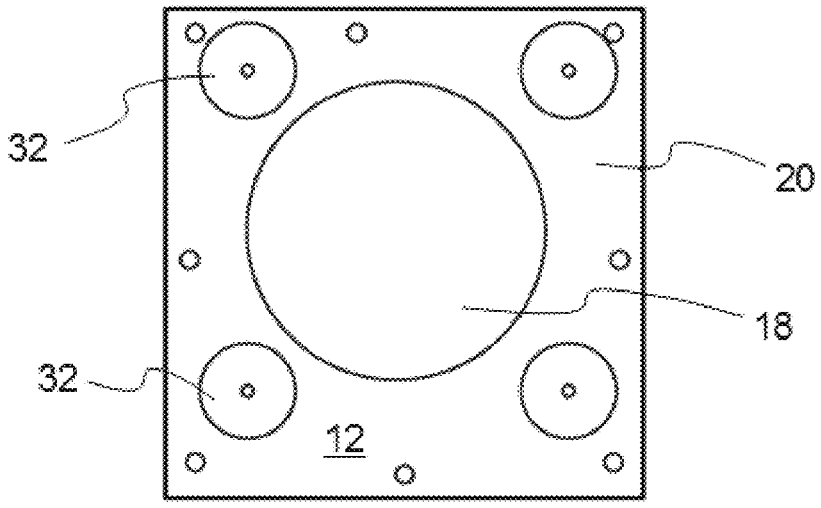


FIG. 1F

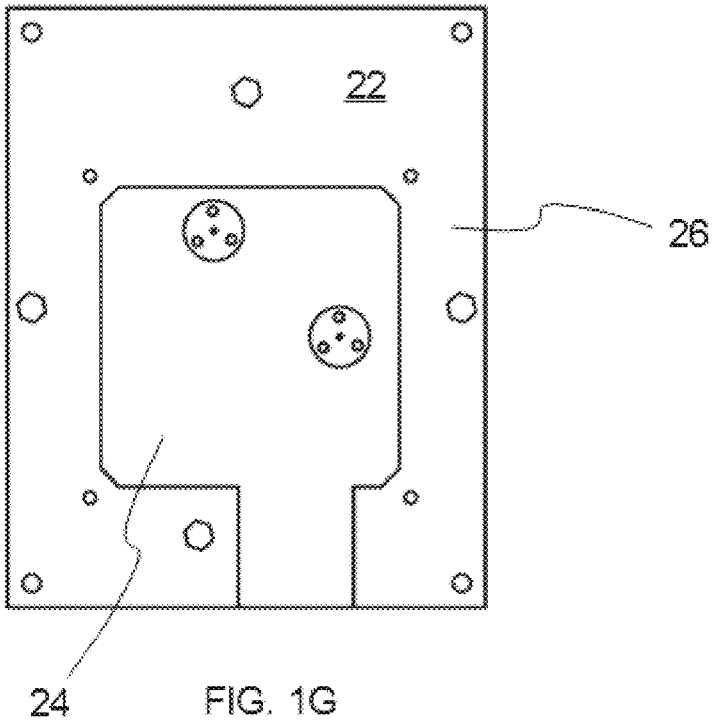


FIG. 1G

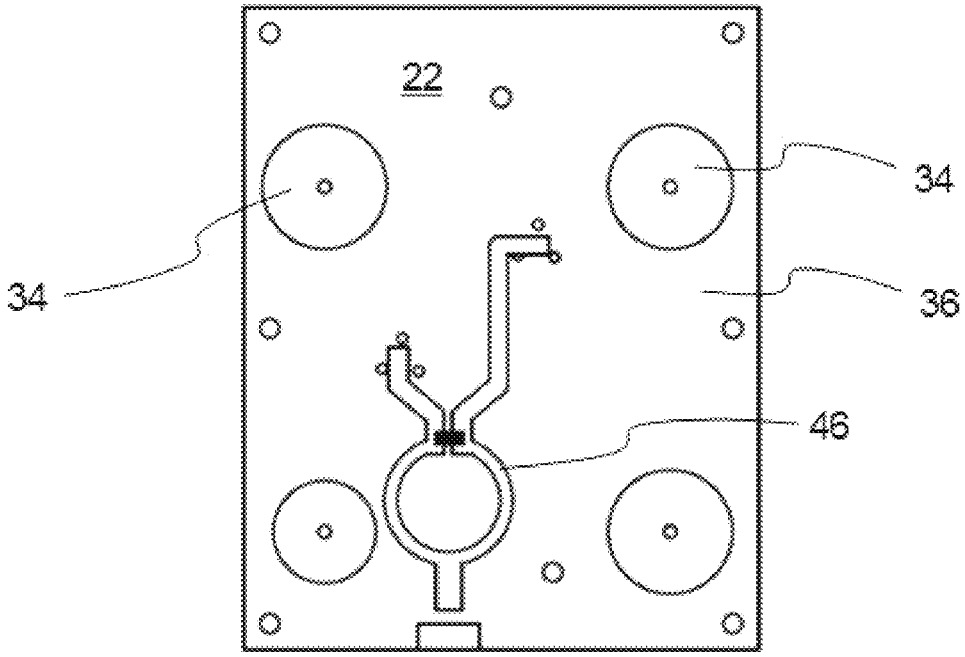


FIG. 1H

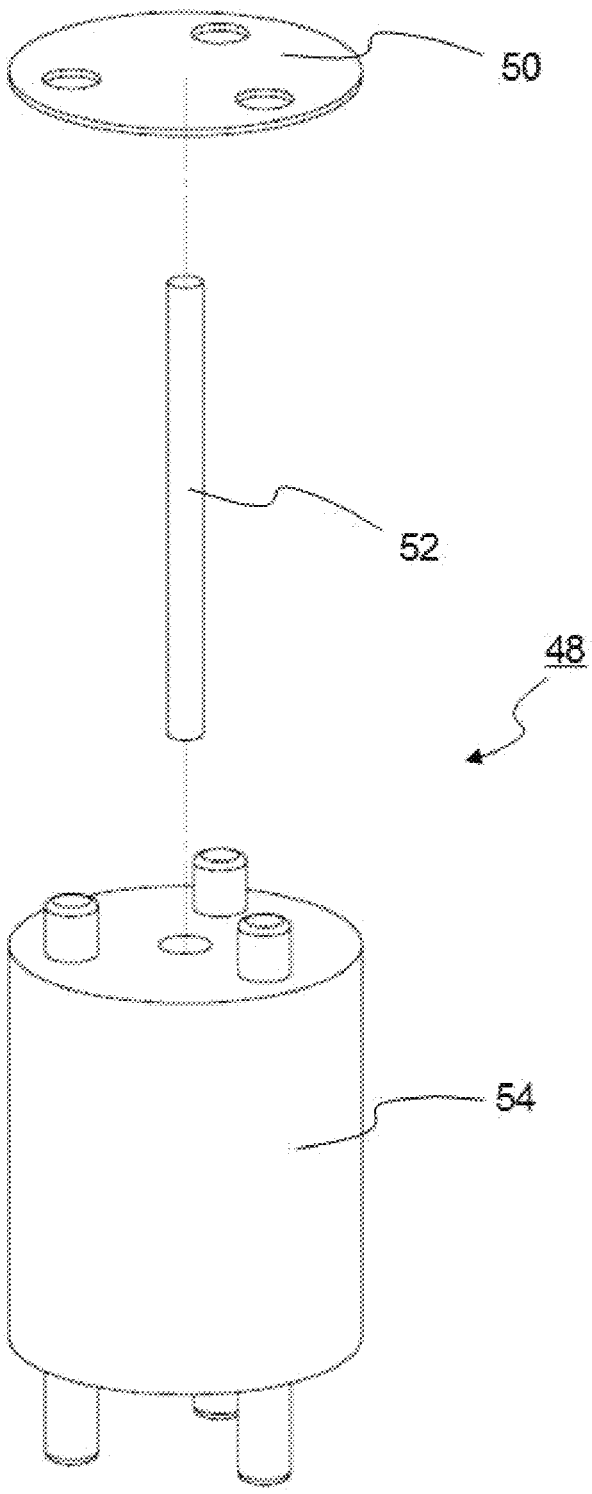


FIG. 1I

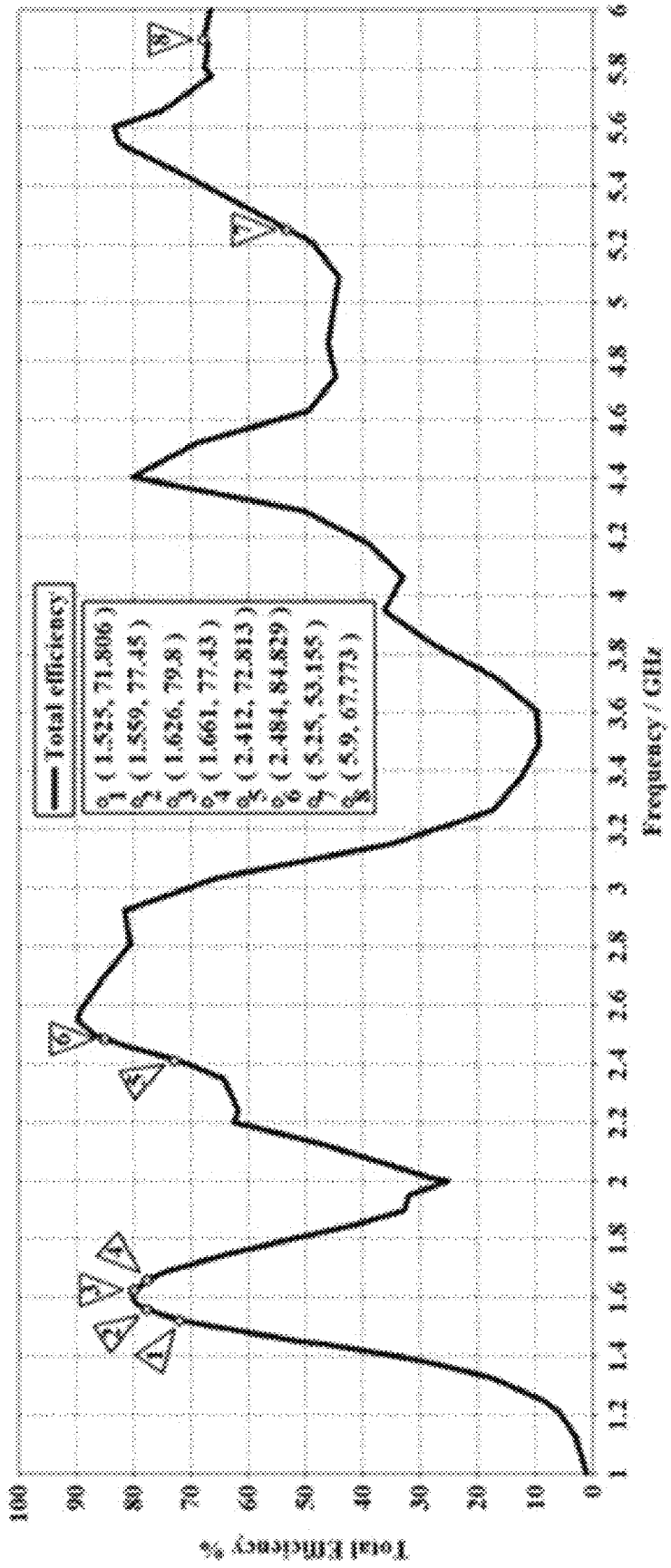

Total efficiency
m1 (1.525, 71.806)
m2 (1.559, 77.45)
m3 (1.626, 79.8)
m4 (1.661, 77.43)
m5 (2.412, 72.813)
m6 (2.484, 84.829)
m7 (5.25, 53.159)
m8 (5.9, 67.773)
Total Efficiency %
Frequency / GHz

FIG. 2

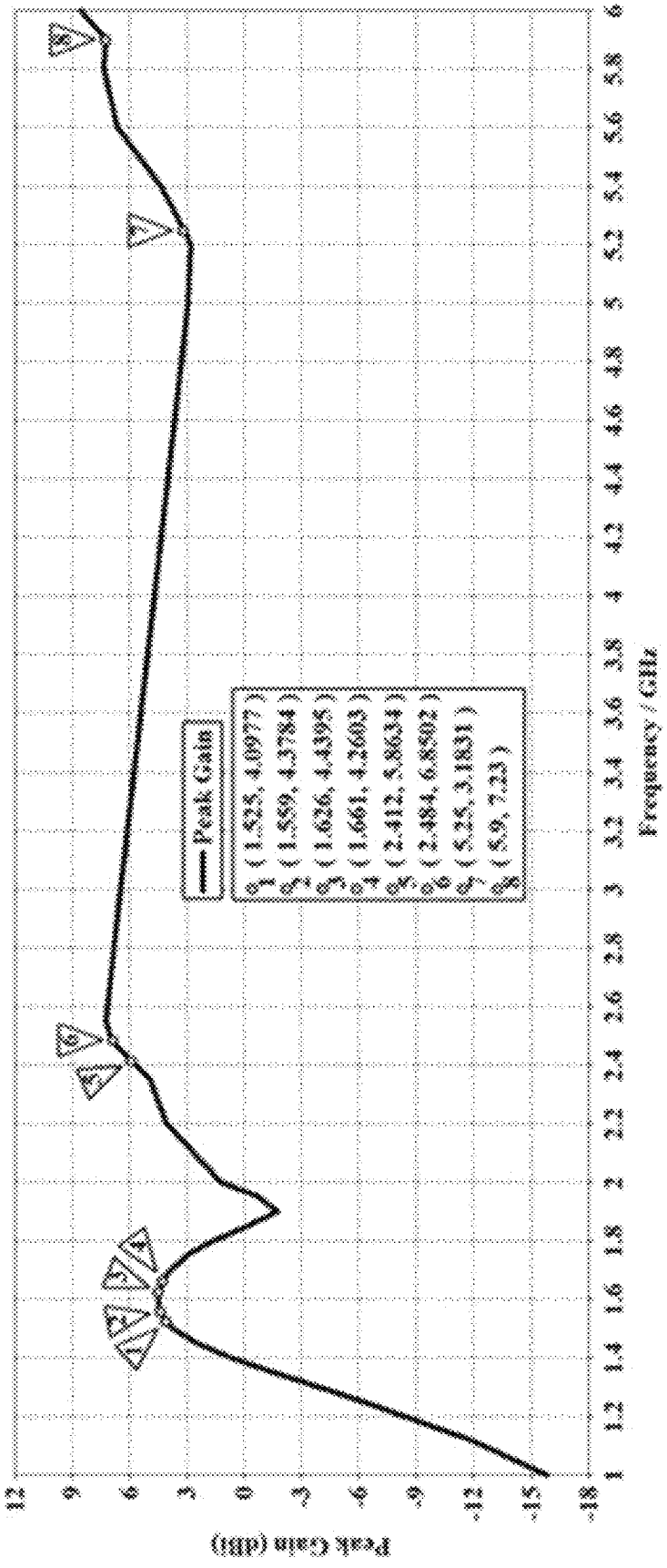

Peak Gain
m1 (1.525, 4.0977)
m2 (1.559, 4.3784)
m3 (1.626, 4.4395)
m4 (1.661, 4.3603)
m5 (2.412, 5.8634)
m6 (2.484, 6.8502)
m7 (5.25, 3.1831)
m8 (5.9, 7.23)
Peak Gain (dBi)
Frequency / GHz

FIG. 3

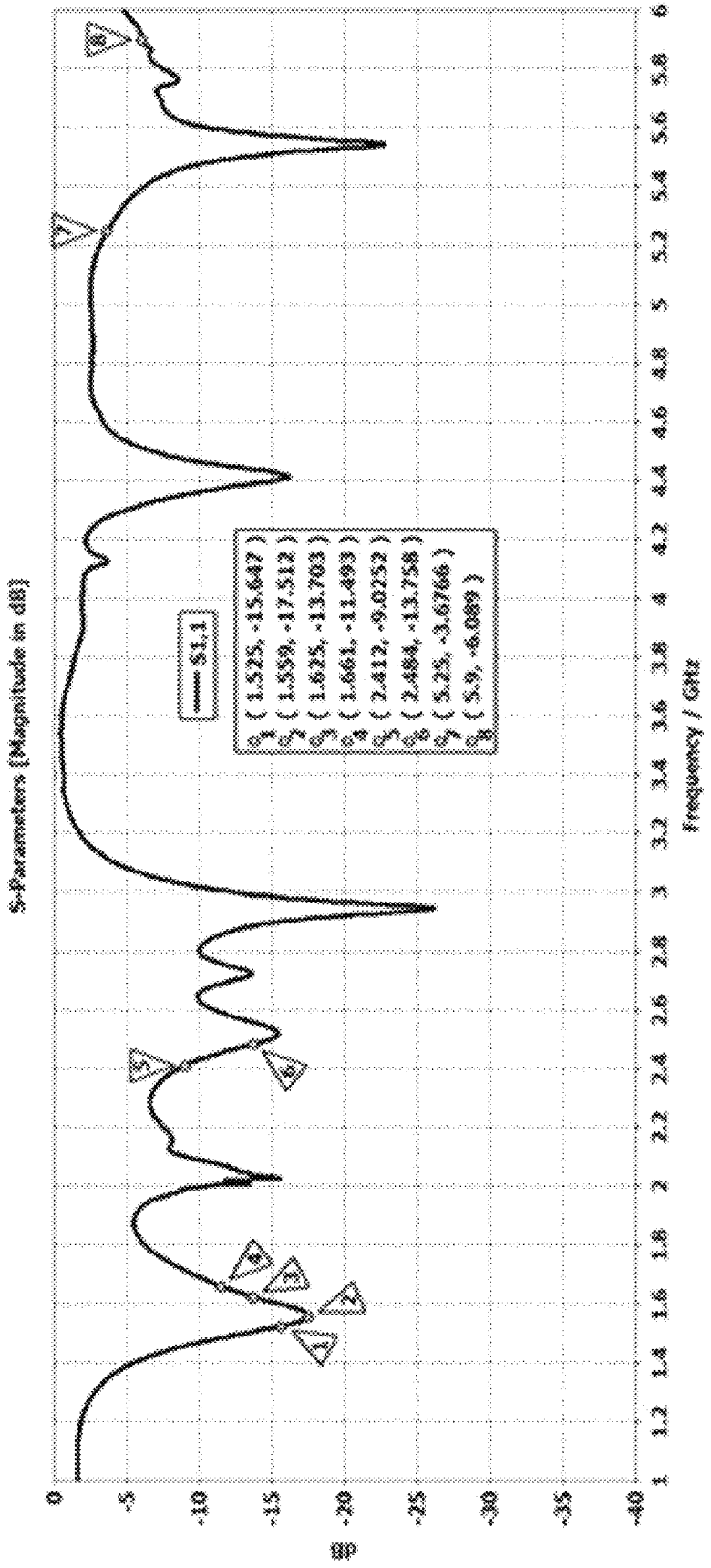

S-Parameters (Magnitude in dB)
Frequency / GHz
dB
S11
m1 (1.525, -15.947)
m2 (1.59, -17.515)
m3 (1.625, -13.703)
m4 (1.691, -11.499)
m5 (2.412, -9.0252)
m6 (2.484, -13.758)
m7 (5.25, -3.6796)
m8 (5.9, -4.689)

FIG. 4

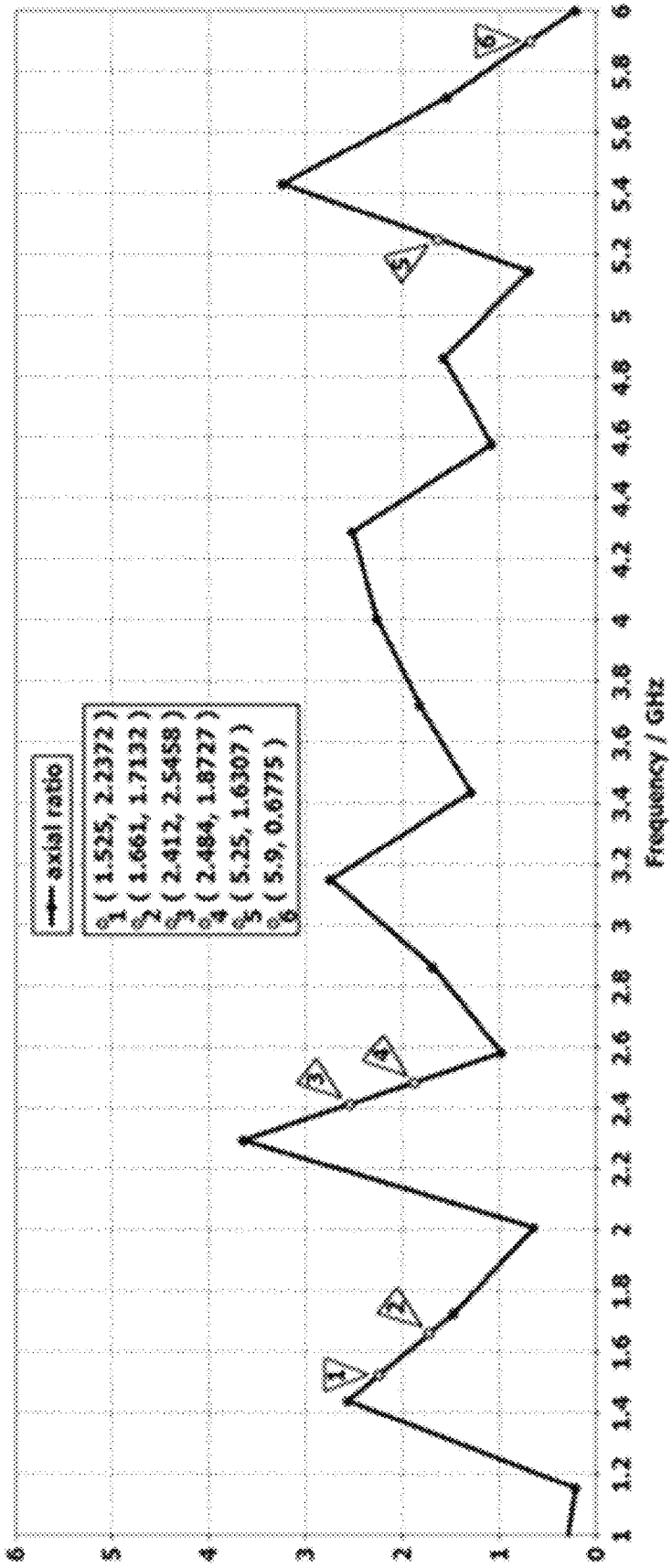

axial ratio
m1 (1.525, 2.2372)
m2 (1.661, 1.7132)
m3 (2.412, 2.5458)
m4 (2.484, 1.8727)
m5 (5.25, 1.6307)
m6 (5.9, 0.6775)
Frequency / GHz
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
1
1.2
1.4
1.6
1.8
2
2.2
2.4
2.6
2.8
3
3.2
3.4
3.6
3.8
4
4.2
4.4
4.6
4.8
5
5.2
5.4
5.6
5.8
6

FIG. 5

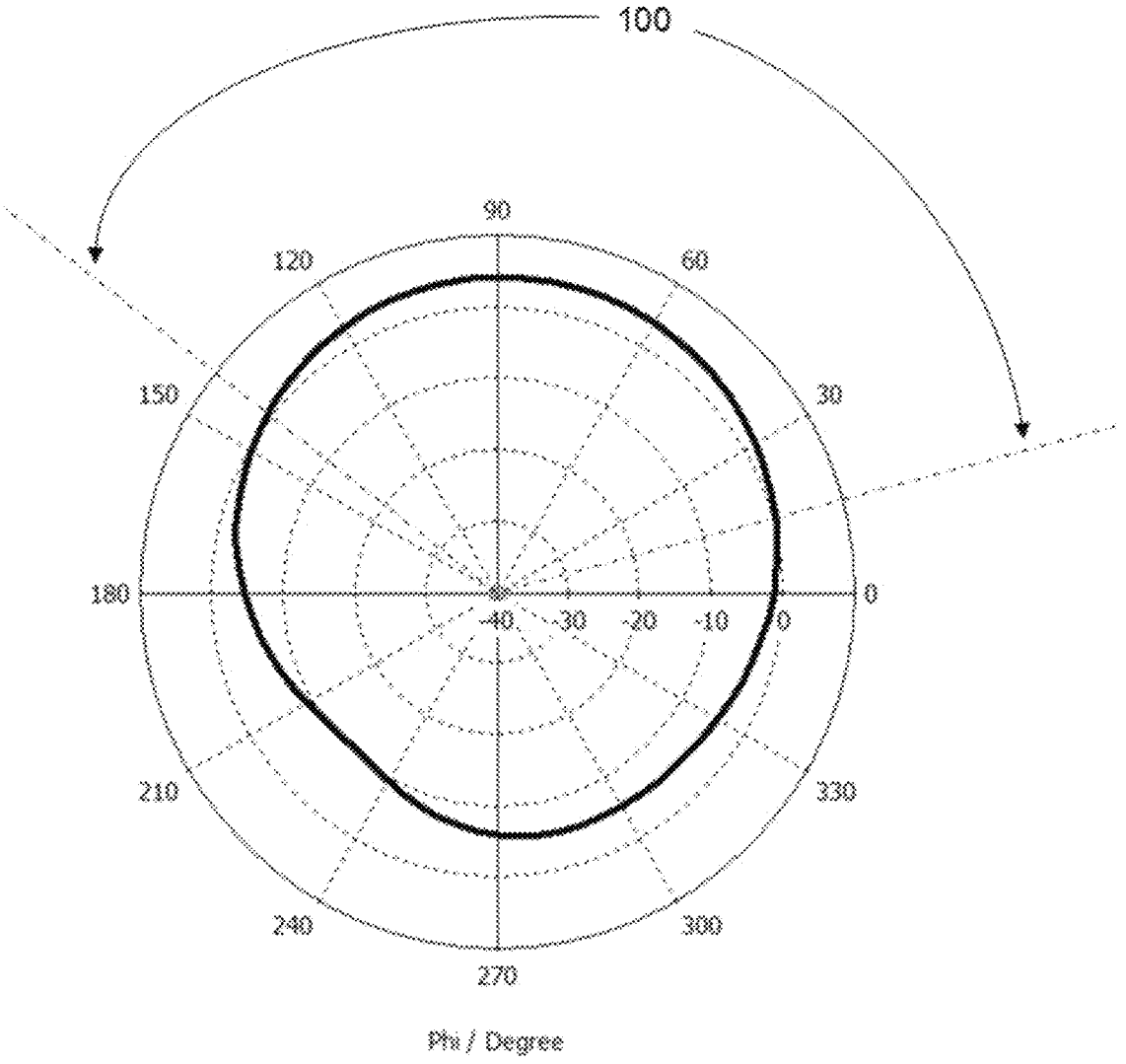

100
90
120
60
150
30
180
0
-40
-30
-20
-10
0
210
330
240
300
270
Phi / Degree

FIG. 6

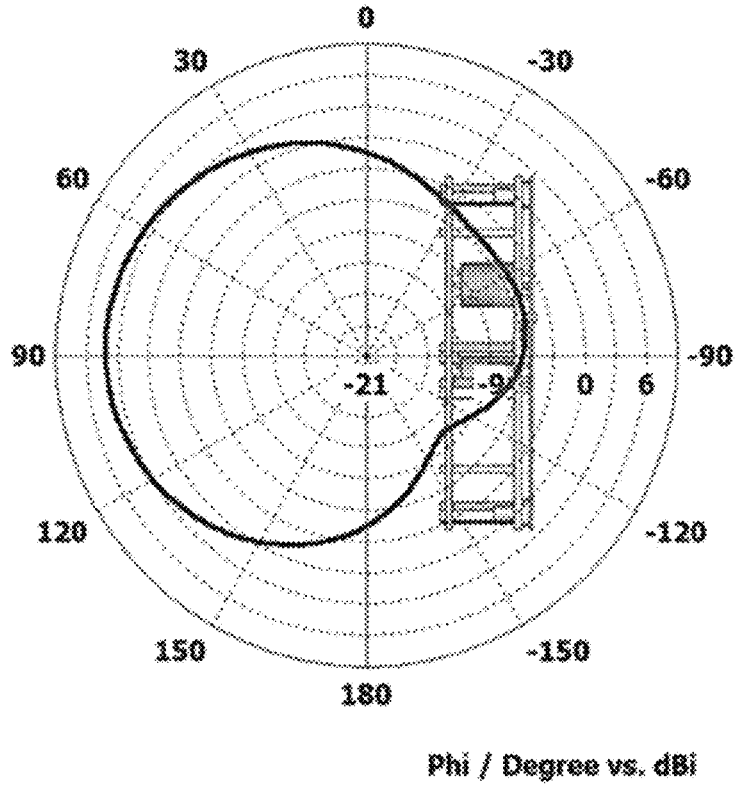


FIG. 7A

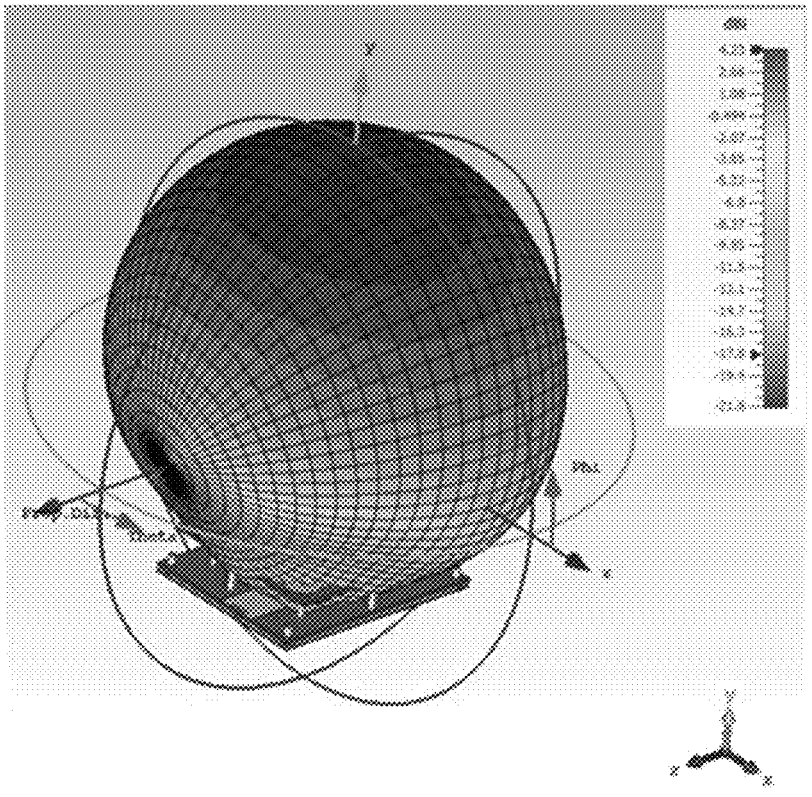


FIG. 7B

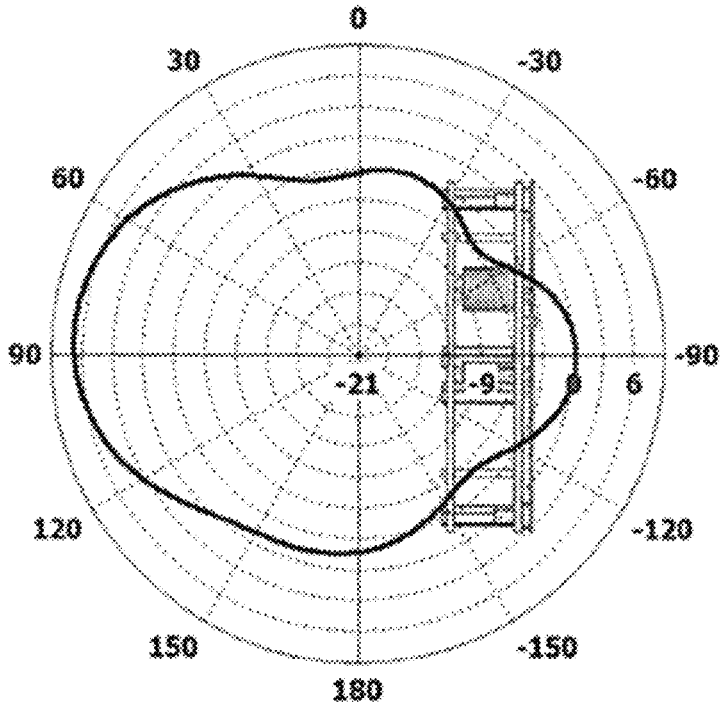


FIG. 8A

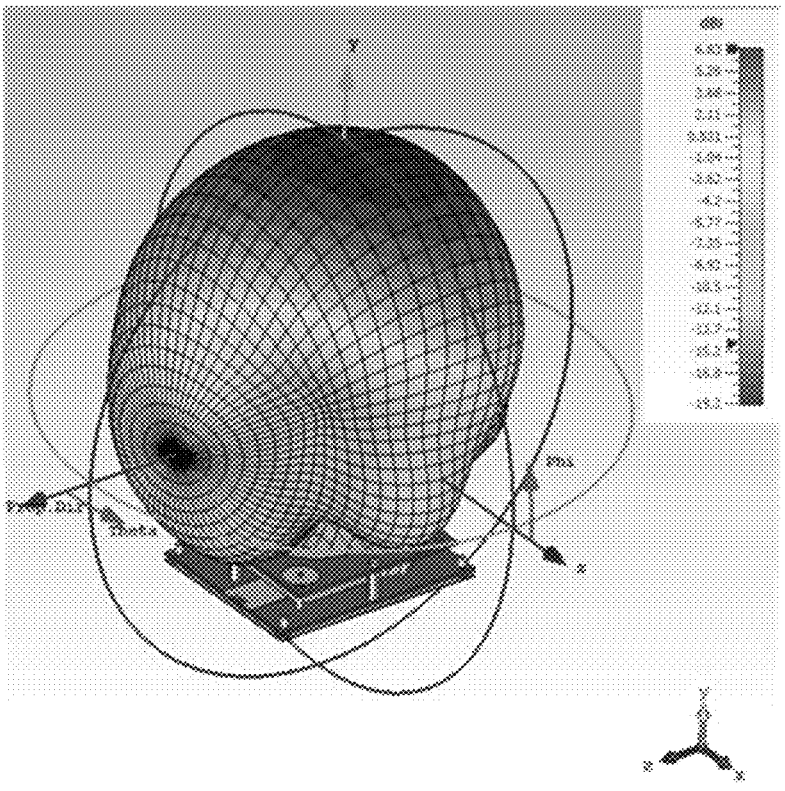


FIG. 8B

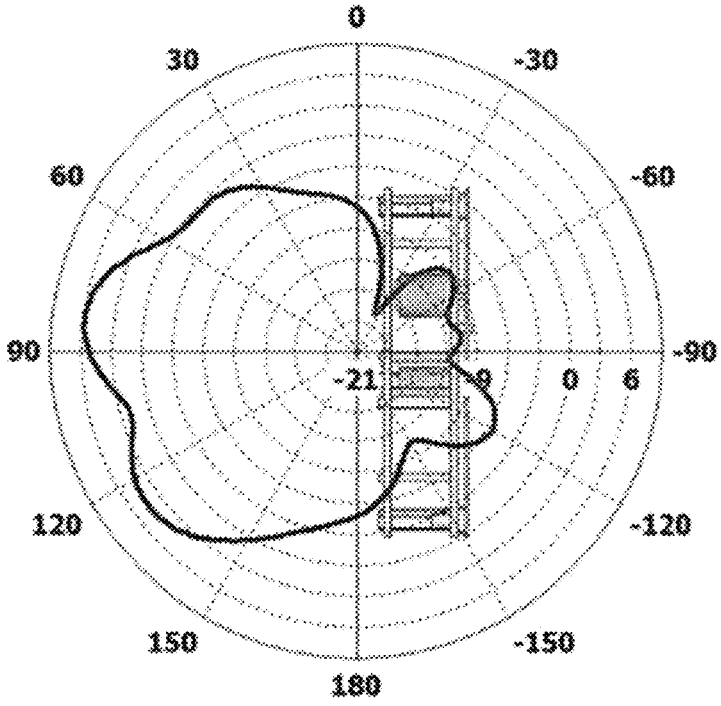


FIG. 9A

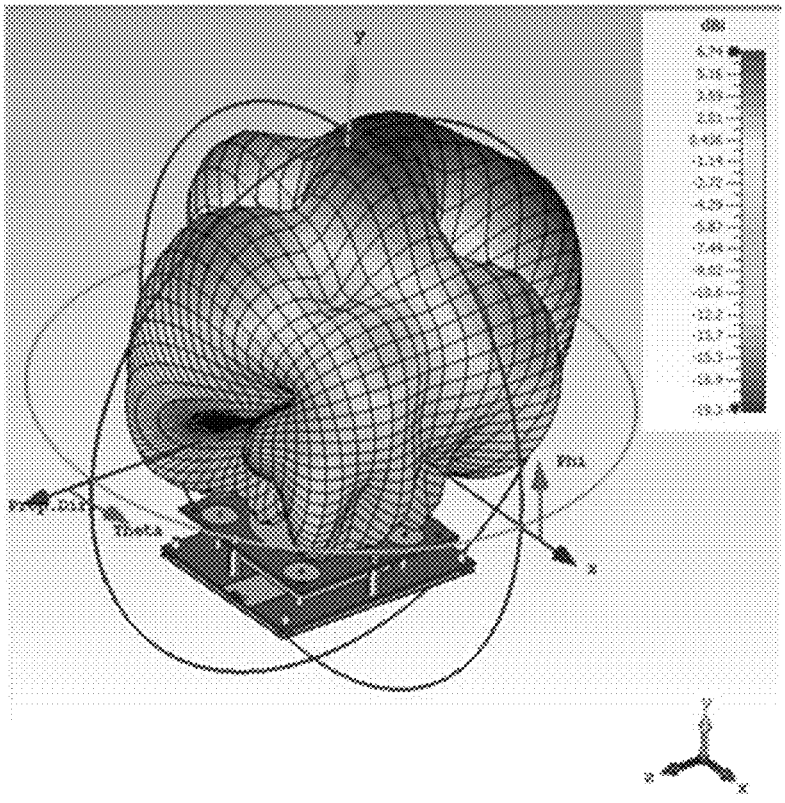


FIG. 9B

ANTENNA SYSTEM

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Singapore Patent Application No. 10201909947Y, filed Oct. 24, 2019, which application is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present application relates to the field of telecommunications and more particularly to an antenna system.

BACKGROUND

Satellite navigation and WiFi communications are both useful radio technologies with numerous applications. However, in certain applications such as, for example, the maritime sector, there are no antennas that cover network bands for both satellite navigation and WiFi communications. It is therefore desirable to provide an antenna system that is operable for both satellite navigation and WiFi communications.

SUMMARY

Accordingly, in a first aspect, the present application provides an antenna system including a first substrate, the first substrate being a dielectric substrate, a first patch on a first surface of the dielectric substrate and a second patch on a second surface of the dielectric substrate. The first and second patches are coupled to form a first capacitor with the dielectric substrate. A second substrate is coupled to the first substrate and a ground layer is provided on a first surface of the second substrate. An antenna feed is coupled to the second substrate.

Other aspects and advantages will become apparent from the following detailed description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, illustrating by way of example the principles of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Embodiments will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. **1**A is a schematic perspective view of an antenna system in accordance with an embodiment herein;

FIG. **1**B is an exploded schematic perspective view of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **1**C is a schematic side view of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **1**D is a schematic perspective view of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A without a first substrate;

FIG. **1**E is a schematic plan view of a first surface of the first substrate of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **1**F is a schematic plan view of a second surface of the first substrate of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **1**G is a schematic plan view of a first surface of a second substrate of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **1**H is a schematic plan view of a second surface of the second substrate of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **1**I is an enlarged exploded schematic perspective view of an antenna port of the antenna system of FIG. **1**A;

FIG. **2** is a graph of antenna efficiency against frequency;

FIG. **3** is a graph of antenna peak gain against frequency;

FIG. **4** is a graph of antenna return loss against frequency;

FIG. **5** is a graph of antenna axial ratio at broadside against frequency;

FIG. **6** illustrates a radiation pattern of an antenna system in accordance with an embodiment herein;

FIGS. **7**A and **7**B illustrate radiation patterns of an antenna system at a frequency of 1661 megahertz (MHz) in accordance with an embodiment herein;

FIGS. **8**A and **8**B illustrate radiation patterns of an antenna system at a frequency of 2480 MHz in accordance with another embodiment herein; and

FIGS. **9**A and **9**B illustrate radiation pattern of an antenna system at a frequency of 5900 MHz in accordance with yet another embodiment herein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The detailed description set forth below in connection with the appended drawings is intended as a description of presently preferred embodiments and is not intended to represent the only forms in which the present invention may be practiced. It is to be understood that the same or equivalent functions may be accomplished by different embodiments that are intended to be encompassed within the scope of the claims.

Referring now to FIGS. **1**A through **1**I, an antenna system **10** is shown. The antenna system **10** includes a first substrate **12**, the first substrate **12** being a dielectric substrate. A first patch **14** is provided on a first surface **16** of the dielectric substrate **12** and a second patch **18** is provided on a second surface **20** of the dielectric substrate **12**, the first and second patches **14** and **18** being coupled to form a first capacitor with the dielectric substrate **12**. A second substrate **22** is coupled to the first or dielectric substrate **12**, and a ground layer **24** is provided on a first surface **26** of the second substrate **22**. An antenna feed **28** is coupled to the second substrate **22**.

The first and second substrates **12** and **22** may be antenna boards. The dielectric substrate **12** may be made of a commercially available low-loss laminate material with dielectric constant of about 3.0 such as, for example, Roger 3003 and RT/Duroid 6002.

The first and second patches **14** and **18** on the first substrate or antenna board **12** form a main radiating antenna. In the embodiment shown, the first and second radiating patches **14** and **18** are circular in shape and are centrally located on the dielectric substrate **12**. Nevertheless, as will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, the first and second patches **14** and **18** are not limited to being circular in shape or centrally located and may take on other shapes and/or be positioned at a different location in alternative embodiments.

The ground layer or plane **24** helps to enhance antenna gain.

In the embodiment shown, a plurality of first parasitic elements **30** is provided on the first surface **16** of the dielectric substrate **12** and a plurality of second parasitic elements **32** is provided on the second surface **20** of the dielectric substrate **12**, the first and second parasitic elements **30** and **32** being coupled to form a plurality of second capacitors with the dielectric substrate **12**. More particularly, each of the first parasitic elements **30** on the first surface or top side **16** of the dielectric substrate **12** is coupled with a corresponding one of the second parasitic elements **32** on the second surface or bottom side **20** of the dielectric substrate **12** to form a capacitance with dielectric constant of the first

antenna board **12**. Advantageously, the center radiating circular patch **14** and four (4) first parasitic elements **30** on the top side **16** of the first antenna board **12** help to enhance beam width of the antenna system **10**.

A plurality of third parasitic elements **34** may be provided on a second surface **36** of the second substrate **22**, the third parasitic elements **34** being electrically connected to the second capacitors. In the embodiment shown, a plurality of first rods **38** electrically connects the second capacitors to the third parasitic elements **34**. The first rods **38** may be made of copper. Thus connected, the first, second and third parasitic elements **30**, **32**, and **34** form comprehensive sets of parasitic element pairs. Advantageously, the parasitic antenna elements **30**, **32**, and **34** incorporated into the antenna structure **10** help to increase angular beam width coverage. In the present embodiment, four (4) comprehensive sets of the parasitic element pairs are formed.

The first and second patches **14** and **18** and the first, second and third parasitic elements **30**, **32**, and **34** may be printed on the respective first and second surfaces **16**, **20**, **26**, and **36** of the first and second substrates **12** and **22**.

To enhance antenna gain, a reflector **40** may be attached to the second surface or bottom **36** of the second substrate **22**. The reflector **40** may be secured at a gap distance of 2 millimeters (mm) to a bottom of the second antenna board **22** with a plurality of screws **42**. The reflector **40** may be made of copper and may be of similar or same dimensions as the second antenna board **22**. The screws **42** may be M3 screws.

In the embodiment shown, a plurality of spacers or standoffs **44** maintains a separation between the first and second substrates **12** and **22**. The first antenna board **12** and the second antenna board **22** are supported by the spacers or standoffs **44**. In this manner, the spacers **44** between the first and second substrates **12** and **22** are used to stack the two (2) antenna boards **12** and **22**. The spacers **44** may be steel hex standoffs.

A power divider or combiner **46** may be electrically connected to the antenna feed **28**. The antenna feed **28** may include an aperture-coupled feeding network having a plurality of antenna ports **48**, the power divider or combiner **46** being configured to equally split an input power between the antenna ports **48** or combine the input power from the antenna ports **48**. The power divider or combiner **46** may be a Wilkinson power divider or combiner. In the present embodiment, two (2) feeding networks are shown, the feeding networks being excited by the equally split Wilkinson power divider or combiner **46** with reference to the ground plane **24**. In transmission mode, the power divider **46** may equally split the input power into half-power in magnitude and may exhibit a 90 degrees phase difference between two (2) antenna ports **48** to yield a circular polarization in the radiation pattern. In reception mode, the power combiner **46** may combine the input power, thereby doubling the power, and may exhibit a 90 degrees phase difference between two (2) antenna ports **48**.

Each of the antenna ports or aperture-coupled feedings **48** may include a radiating element **50** electrically connected to the power divider or combiner **46**. The radiating element **50** may be electrically connected to the power divider or combiner **46** by a second rod **52**. Each of the antenna ports **48** may further include an enclosure **54** housing the second rod **52** and securing the radiating element **50** to the second substrate **22**. The radiating element **50** may be a thin circular dish, the second rod **52** may be made of copper, and the enclosure **54** may be a hollow plastic cylinder. The plastic enclosure **54** may be utilized to secure the circular dish **50** to make the antenna structure more stable and secure and the copper rod **52** may be used to connect the circular dish **50** to the second antenna board **22**.

The antenna system **10** of the present embodiment includes two (2) aperture-coupled feeds **48** between two (2) stacked-antenna boards **12** and **22**, two (2) radiating patches **14** and **18** on opposite sides of the first antenna board **12**, twelve (12) parasitic elements **30**, **32**, and **34** on surfaces of the stacked-antenna boards **12** and **22** and a reflector **40**. In the present embodiment, the antenna system **10** is excited by the two aperture-coupled feedings **48** coupled with the twelve (12) parasitic elements **30**, **32** and **34**. Advantageously, the configuration of the two (2) radiating circular patches **14** and **18** printed at the center of the first antenna board **12** and the twelve (12) parasitic elements **30**, **32** and **34** on the two antenna boards **12** and **22** yields a wide beam width radiation pattern and polarizes in a Right-Hand Circularly Polarized (RHCP) propagation. Nevertheless, as will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, embodiments herein are not limited by the numbers of radiating patches and/or parasitic elements in the antenna structure. In alternative embodiments, the antenna system described herein may include multiple radiating patches, various arrays of parasitic elements, a larger number of parasitic elements and/or various dielectric materials for the antenna boards.

EXAMPLES

The antenna system **10** was simulated and performance was verified using full-wave electromagnetics Computer Aided Design (CAD) simulation tools, specifically, CST Microwave Studio. The simulation results are shown in FIGS. **2** through **9**B described below.

Referring now to FIG. **2**, total efficiency of the antenna system against frequency is shown. As can be seen from FIG. **2**, a typical efficiency of 70% is observed across the satellite communication bands for receiving (Rx): 1525 megahertz (MHz) to 1559 MHz, and transmitting (Tx): 1626.5 MHz to 1660.5 MHz and an efficiency range of between 60% and 78% is observed across the WiFi 2.4 gigahertz (GHz) and 5 GHz bands from 2412 MHz to 2484 MHz and 5250 MHz to 5900 MHz, respectively.

Referring now to FIG. **3**, peak gain of the antenna system against frequency is shown. As can be seen from FIG. **3**, a typical of gain of 4.2 decibels-isotropic (dBi) to 7 dBi is observed across the satellite communication bands and the WiFi 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands.

Referring now to FIG. **4**, return loss in decibels (dB) of the antenna system **10** is simulated across frequency from 1 GHz to 6 GHz to cover both satellite and WiFi bands. The simulation results show that return loss of −7 dB to −15 dB range is achieved.

Referring now to FIG. **5**, the axial ratio (AR) in dB at elevation angle of phi set to 90 degrees)(° of the antenna system **10** is simulated across frequency from 1 GHz to 6 GHz. The simulation results show that the AR in both the satellite and WiFi bands is below 3 dB, which indicates that the polarization of the antenna system **10** is defined as circular polarized.

A summary of the simulation results is shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

Communications	Satellite Rx	Satellite Tx	BT/WiFi 2.4G	WiFi 5G
Frequency (MHz)	1525-1559	1625.5-1660.5	2412-2484	5250-5900
Return Loss (dB)	−15	−12	−12	−7
Total Efficiency (%)	74	78	78	60
Peak Gain (dBi)	4.2	4.3	6.2	5.1
Axial Ratio (dB)	2.09	1.9	1.8	3.2

FIGS. **6** through **9**B are two-dimensional (2D) polar plots and three-dimensional (3D) radiation patterns of the antenna system **10** from the simulation results.

Referring now to FIG. **6**, a two-dimensional radiation pattern plot for realized gain of the antenna system against angular phi angle with theta fixed at 90 degrees)(° and frequency at 1.661 GHz is shown. A Half-Power Beam Width (HPBW) **100** was defined to measure the metric of the antenna system with wide beam width and the HPBW of the antenna system was found to be 120° at 1.661 GHz.

Referring now to FIG. **7**A, a two-dimensional radiation pattern plot in the XY plane of realized gain against angular phi angle with theta fixed at 90 degrees)(° and frequency targeted at 1.661 GHz overlapping with the antenna system **10** is shown.

Referring now to FIG. **7**B, a three-dimensional radiation pattern plot overlapping with the antenna system **10** is shown.

Referring now to FIG. **8**A, a two-dimensional radiation pattern plot in the XY plane of realized gain against angular phi angle with theta fixed at 90 degrees)(° and frequency targeted at 2.480 GHz overlapping with the antenna system **10** is shown.

Referring now to FIG. **8**B, a three-dimensional radiation pattern plot overlapping with the antenna system **10** is shown.

Referring now to FIG. **9**A, a two-dimensional radiation pattern plot in the XY plane of realized gain against angular phi angle with theta fixed at 90 degrees)(° and frequency targeted at 5.900 GHz overlapping with the antenna system **10** is shown.

Referring now to FIG. **9**B, a three-dimensional radiation pattern plot overlapping with the antenna system **10** is shown.

The simulation results show that the antenna system **10** can achieve a wide angular beamwidth of 120°, RHCP across wide frequency bands and high antenna gain with a peak gain range of from 4 dBi to 7 dBi, and provide wideband coverage of frequency bands from 1470 MHz to 1700 MHz, 2400 MHz to 3000 MHz and 5250 MHz to 5900 MHz.

As is evident from the foregoing discussion, embodiments herein provide an antenna system with multiband capability and ultra-wide beamwidth. Advantageously, the antenna system may be used for satellite navigation (Rx: 1525 MHz to 1559 MHz, and Tx: 1626.5 MHz to 1660.5 MHz), Beidou (1559 MHz to 1563 MHz), Gallileo (1559 MHz to 1591 MHz), GLONASS (1589 MHz to 1606 MHz), GPS L1 (1575 MHz), WiFi dual-band 2.4G/5 GHz communications, and Bluetooth 2.4 GHz communications.

Items Listing

Embodiments of the present disclosure include at least following items, which are not intended to limit the scope of the disclosure as a whole or of the appended claims.

Item 1: An antenna system, comprising: a first substrate, the first substrate being a dielectric substrate; a first patch on a first surface of the dielectric substrate; a second patch on a second surface of the dielectric substrate, wherein the first and second patches are coupled to form a first capacitor with the dielectric substrate; a second substrate coupled to the first substrate; a ground layer on a first surface of the second substrate; and an antenna feed coupled to the second substrate.

Item 2: The antenna system of Item 1, further comprising: a plurality of first parasitic elements on the first surface of the dielectric substrate; a plurality of second parasitic elements on the second surface of the dielectric substrate, wherein the first and second parasitic elements are coupled to form a plurality of second capacitors with the dielectric substrate;

Item 3: The antenna system of Item 2, further comprising: a plurality of third parasitic elements on a second surface of the second substrate, wherein the third parasitic elements are electrically connected to the first and second parasitic elements.

Item 4: The antenna system of Item 3, further comprising: a reflector attached to the second surface of the second substrate.

Item 5: The antenna system of any one of the preceding Items, further comprising: a plurality of spacers maintaining a separation between the first and second substrates.

Item 6: The antenna system of any one of the preceding Items, further comprising a power divider or combiner electrically connected to the antenna feed, wherein the antenna feed comprises a plurality of antenna ports and wherein the power divider or combiner is configured to equally split an input power between the antenna ports or combine the input power from the antenna ports.

Item 7: The antenna system of Item 6, wherein the power divider or combiner is a Wilkinson power divider or combiner.

Item 8: The antenna system of Item 6 or 7, wherein each of the antenna ports comprises a radiating element electrically connected to the power divider or combiner.

Item 9: The antenna system of Item 8, wherein the radiating element is electrically connected to the power divider or combiner by a rod.

Item 10: The antenna system of Item 9, wherein each of the antenna ports further comprises an enclosure housing the rod and securing the radiating element to the second substrate.

While embodiments have been illustrated and described, it will be clear that the invention is not limited to the described embodiments only. Numerous modifications, changes, variations, substitutions and equivalents will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as described in the claims. The antenna system of the present invention may be used in marine telematics applications for ship-to-ship, ship-to-port and ship-to-satellite navigation and communications.

Further, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, throughout the description and the claims, the words "comprise," "comprising," and the like are to be construed in an inclusive as opposed to an exclusive or exhaustive sense; that is to say, in the sense of "including, but not limited to."

What is claimed is:

1. An antenna system, comprising:

a first substrate, the first substrate being a dielectric substrate;

a first patch on a first surface of the dielectric substrate;

a plurality of first parasitic elements on the first surface of the dielectric substrate;

a second patch on a second surface of the dielectric substrate, wherein the first and second patches are coupled to form a first capacitor with the dielectric substrate;

a plurality of second parasitic elements on the second surface of the dielectric substrate, wherein the first and second parasitic elements are coupled to form a plurality of second capacitors with the dielectric substrate;

a second substrate coupled to the first substrate;

a ground layer on a first surface of the second substrate; and

an antenna feed coupled to the second substrate.

2. The antenna system of claim **1**, further comprising a plurality of third parasitic elements on a second surface of the second substrate, wherein the third parasitic elements are electrically connected to the second capacitors.

3. The antenna system of claim **2**, further comprising a reflector attached to the second surface of the second substrate.

4. The antenna system of claim **1**, further comprising a plurality of spacers maintaining a separation between the first and second substrates.

5. The antenna system of claim **1**, further comprising a power divider or combiner electrically connected to the antenna feed, wherein the antenna feed comprises a plurality of antenna ports and wherein the power divider or combiner is configured to equally split an input power between the antenna ports or combine the input power from the antenna ports.

6. The antenna system of claim **5**, wherein the power divider or combiner is a Wilkinson power divider or combiner.

7. The antenna system of claim **5**, wherein each of the antenna ports comprises a radiating element electrically connected to the power divider or combiner.

8. The antenna system of claim **7**, wherein the radiating element is electrically connected to the power divider or combiner by a rod.

9. The antenna system of claim **8**, wherein each of the antenna ports further comprises an enclosure housing the rod and securing the radiating element to the second substrate.

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